

ORDINANCE NO. 023-115

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
AGREEMENT WITH THE FOREST  
PRESERVES OF COOK COUNTY  
FOR THE AUTHORITY TO CONVEY  
PROPERTY AND TAKE MITIGATION  
MEASURES FOR THE BEAUBIEN  
WOODS FOREST PRESERVE DUE  
TO IMPACTS FROM THE RED LINE  
EXTENSION PROJECT

WHEREAS, The Chicago Transit Authority (“Authority”) is undertaking a project to build stations and extend rail infrastructure on the Red Line, also known as the Red Line Extension Project (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, The Project will extend the Red Line from the existing terminal at 95th/Dan Ryan to 130th Street and include four new stations near 103rd Street, 111th Street, Michigan Avenue, and 130th Street, with multimodal connections at each station including bus, bike, pedestrian, and park & ride facilities; and

WHEREAS, The Project will reduce commute times for residents, improve mobility and accessibility, and foster economic development, where stations may serve as catalysts for neighborhood revitalization; and

WHEREAS, The Metropolitan Transit Authority Act (“MTA Act”), 70 ILCS 3605/6, permits the Authority to acquire, construct, own, operate, and maintain a public service transportation system in the area; and

WHEREAS, The MTA Act, 70 ILCS 3605/8, provides that the Authority has the power to acquire any property useful for its purposes; and

WHEREAS, The Authority and Forest Preserves of Cook County (“FPCC”) intend to mitigate impacts of the RLE Project to the Beaubien Woods Forest Preserve, consistent with the August 2022 RLE Final Environmental Impact Statement/Record of Decision and Section 4(f) Evaluation, and the parties wish to enter into an intergovernmental agreement (the “IGA”) to detail the mitigation measures (see Exhibit A hereto); and

WHEREAS, Pursuant to a 2023 agreement between the City of Chicago (“City”) and the Authority, the Authority will acquire from the City and convey to FPCC two parcels located at 1108 East 133<sup>rd</sup> Street and 500 East 134<sup>th</sup> Street Chicago, Illinois (the “Property”), as described in Exhibits A and B to the IGA; and

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WHEREAS, If FPCC wishes to perform additional environmental site assessments on the Property, the Authority may pay FPCC an amount not to exceed Twenty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$22,000.00); and

WHEREAS, After the Authority acquires the Property from City, the Authority shall remove all loose trash, garbage, and fly-dumped materials from the Property before conveying the Property to FPCC; and

WHEREAS, The Authority shall pay FPCC Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) ("Mitigation Fee") for impacts to the land; and

WHEREAS, The Authority shall pay FPCC an amount not-to-exceed Three Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$315,000.00) for a new trail connection from Altgeld Gardens recreation facilities to the Beaubien Woods Boat Launch, as described in Exhibit C to the IGA; and

WHEREAS, The Authority shall design, install, and maintain wayfinding and information signage inside the proposed 130th Street Red Line station; and

WHEREAS, The Authority shall design and install outdoor pedestrian-scale wayfinding signs at three (3) locations, as described in Exhibit D to the IGA. The Authority shall apply to obtain permits, and FPCC will assume ongoing long-term maintenance after the installation; and

WHEREAS, The Authority shall provide FPCC with up to One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00) in unsold advertising space on trains and buses to encourage Authority riders to use public transportation to visit the Forest Preserves pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in Exhibit E to the IGA; and

WHEREAS, FPCC will release the Authority from claims related to the closure of roads that access Beaubien Woods Forest Preserve or related to the condition of the Property, including environmental claims, and FPCC will indemnify the Authority from claims related to the condition of the Property, except where the Authority contributed to the losses by its negligence; and

WHEREAS, It is necessary and in the best interests of the Authority and the public, consistent with the August 2022 RLE Final Environmental Impact Statement/Record of Decision and Section 4(f) Evaluation, for the Authority to undertake the measures required by the IGA to mitigate impacts of the RLE Project to the Beaubien Woods Forest Preserve; now, therefore:

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BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CHICAGO TRANSIT BOARD  
OF THE CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY:

SECTION 1. The Chairman of the Chicago Transit Board, or his designee, is authorized to execute an intergovernmental agreement with the Forest Preserve District of Cook County to mitigate impacts of the RLE Project to the Beaubien Woods Forest Preserve.

SECTION 2. The IGA requires the Authority to acquire and convey to FPCC two parcels located at 1108 East 133<sup>rd</sup> Street and 500 East 134<sup>th</sup> Street, Chicago, Illinois, and pay FPCC an amount not to exceed Twenty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$22,000.00) for additional site assessments, an amount not to exceed Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) for impacts to the land, and an amount not-to-exceed Three Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$315,000.00) for a new trail connection, for an aggregate not-to-exceed payment to FPCC of Five Hundred Eighty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$587,000.00); requires the Authority to design, install, and maintain wayfinding and information signage inside the proposed 130th Street Red Line station, design and install outdoor pedestrian-scale wayfinding signs at three (3) locations, and provide FPCC with a not-to-exceed amount of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000.00) in unsold advertising space on Authority trains and buses to encourage Authority riders to use public transportation to visit the Forest Preserves; has a term through December 31, 2033 or four (4) years after the beginning of revenue service on the Red Line Extension, whichever is later; and contains such other terms as the Intergovernmental Agreement between Chicago Transit Authority and Forest Preserves of Cook County attached as Exhibit A hereto.

SECTION 3. The Chairman of the Board, or his designee is further authorized to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary to implement the objectives of this ordinance.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

APPROVED:

PASSED:

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Chairman

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Secretary

October 13, 2023

October 13, 2023